



St. Francis Xavier's RC Primary School

Love one another as I have loved you

Homework Policy

Our Mission

Share God's love with one another

Follow your dreams

EXcel in citizenship

Our Mission is to:

- Be a witness to the values, teaching and beliefs of the Roman Catholic Church
- Promote achievement and enjoyment for all
- Expect the best for individuals
- Inspire learning
- Collaborate with the community
- Promote a healthy and safe life style
- Create a sustainable school
- Continually strive to be effective

Definition

In order that our pupils can attain the highest standard (spiritual, moral, social, cultural and academic), we recognize the importance of an active educational partnership between home and school. Homework is just one of the ways in which we seek to foster this partnership. Homework encompasses a whole variety of activities instigated by teachers and parents to support children's learning. Homework should not be a chore, but children should see it as an extension of their schoolwork. There may be occasions when some tasks are more challenging or difficult than usual as homework plays a positive role in raising a child's level of attainment. We also acknowledge the important role of play and free time in a child's growth and development.

Aims

St Francis Xavier's R.C. Primary School believes that homework should:

- Engage pupils by being current and linked to the learning that has taken place/will take place within the classroom
- Enable pupils to make maximum progress in their academic and social development
- Foster good organizational work habits and self-discipline for the future
- Help parents gain insight into their child's schoolwork and promote partnership between home and school.
- Provide opportunities for individualized creative work and develop the essential skills of independent learning
- Offer access to resources not found in school (public libraries, local museums, relatives etc.)
- Consolidate and reinforce learning done in school and assist in preparation for future class work.
- Create a school-linked context for pupil/parent interaction.
- Allow children to express their individuality through the use of learning logs/project books.

Teachers will aim to ensure that:

- Homework is always clearly related to current areas of study within the classroom
- The task is made clear to children and matched to their abilities, especially for those pupils with additional needs
- Time scales for completion and submission are explicit
- Feedback is given as promptly as possible
- Problems or difficulties encountered by children are dealt with swiftly
- Regular completion of homework of a high standard is recognized and celebrated
- The impact of homework upon the standards of children's attainment is monitored and included in the report evenings to parents

Frequency and type of homework

During the Foundation Stage the class teacher will create home learning opportunities as deemed appropriate.

We increase the amount of homework that we give the children as they move through the school. However, in KS1 and KS2, children will be expected to complete the following:

- Spelling practice of weekly spellings
- Daily reading which should include reading to an adult with a comment and signature in their individual reading record. A book review comment is encouraged in UKS2.
- Learning of key mathematical facts, including times tables.
- A half termly 'Learning Log' grid of activities for the children to produce independent project-based learning, linked to the topics of the half term. A degree of autonomy over the choice of tasks, reference to all areas of the curriculum and a choice of presentation styles is encouraged, so that the children are inspired and motivated to use their knowledge and skills at home independently and showcase their learning via Seesaw, or in class.

Children in year 6 may be given additional homework tasks, if it is felt it will support their learning, as they approach the SATs, to aid revision of key concepts across the key stage. This will be set via Seesaw, or in the form of a workbook.

Children who do not complete their homework may be asked to stay in to do so at the teacher's discretion. If a child persistently does not complete homework then the teacher may contact the parents and ask to speak to them in order for school and home to work in partnership for the benefit of the child.

The Role of Parents

Parents may wish to discuss with their child the following questions:

- When is it a good time to do any homework?
- Where is the best place for homework to be done?
- What helps my concentration?
- How long should my homework take me?
- Should I ask for help with my homework, even when it is finishing work started in class?
- Who should I ask for help and how much help should I expect?

It is vital that parents display a positive attitude to homework and value its importance. It is also important for parents to recognize that it is the child's responsibility to complete the work. Parents may wish to contact their child's teacher should any difficulties arise.

This policy was updated April 2024. The policy is to be ratified by the Standards and Curriculum Committee of the Governing Body on 20th May 2024.

The policy will be monitored by members of the Senior Management Team and Chair of the Standards and Curriculum Committee and will be reviewed every two years.

Signed: *Sylvia Cockroft* Date: 20.5.24 Chair of Standards and Curriculum Committee

Signed: *Diana Pearce* Date: 20.5.24 Headteacher